



One Historical Society

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COVERS THE MORNING FIELD ON THE LOWER COLUMBIA

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SHOT FATHER

Young Fend Has No Mercy on Parent.

LAST BULLET FATAL

Boy Gave Himself Up to the Authorities After Committing Awful Deed.

FATHER TRIED HIDE HIMSELF

"You'll Never Get the Chance!" Was Young Brown's Last Word, as He Threw His Gun Up and Committed Parricide.

Chehalis, Wash., Dec. 24.—Thomas Brown, aged 17, shot his father in the kidneys last night on the Brown farm on Deep creek, western Lewis county, then hunted his wounded parent out from his refuge behind a clump of bushes and shot him through the back. The latter bullet caused instantaneous death. The lad then walked home, calmly put up his weapon, and told his mother he had killed his father. He left the body lying in the timber.

Young Brown told his story in detail to a correspondent at the Lewis county jail today. He came to Chehalis at midnight and gave himself up to the authorities. He says there has been trouble between his father and mother for two years; that the former had been addicted to drink, and that he had been growing constantly more abusive toward his family. The parents have not lived together for some time.

Curses and an alleged threat to kill his son brought on the awful tragedy of yesterday. Young Brown had been at school, and was on his way home when he met his father with a team and a load of hay. The wagon became stuck in the mud and the boy advised unhitching. The ill-feeling between them led to a quarrel, in which the lad says his father swore at him and threatened to kill him. "You won't get a chance to kill me," replied the son.

Both started homeward—the son to get a weapon, the father, so the boy claims, for the same purpose. Hangered by having to lead the unhitched team, the parent made slower progress, and his advance was further hampered by his prospective slayer, who tore up three bridges en route so that the team should not cross. Thomas reached home, told his mother he was going to shoot an owl, got the Winchester and started back to become a parricide.

When the father came in sight, he was walking with his hand on the shoulder of a younger son and leading the team.

"Do you mean what you said about killing me?" called Thomas.

"Yes, by God; I do," the man answered.

"You will never get the chance," the son hurled passionately back, and throwing the Winchester to his shoulder, pulled the trigger.

The man, in spite of a jagged wound through the body, hurried into a thicket and tried to hide himself. The youth threw a fresh cartridge in his gun and chased him out. As the elder turned to flee, the second bullet struck him in the back, coming out at the breast.

Young Brown told the story of the killing without hesitation or emotional display. He does not seem to realize the magnitude of his act. He claims he has supported the family for the past two years, and that this necessity has kept him from school until this year.

According to the boy, the dead man was a murderer himself, having shot a man some years ago in a saloon brawl in Texas. He declares he has often heard his parent boast of this affair. He also says his father's brother had to flee from Texas on account of having shot a negro.

CHICAGO SPENT.

Over \$200,000,000 to Celebrate Christmas This Year.
Chicago, Dec. 24.—It is estimated it cost Chicago more than \$200,000,000 to celebrate Christmas this year. Never was money expended so freely in celebrating a holiday in the history of the city.

MOROCCO WARLIKE.

Trouble in the Land of Sandstorms and Turbulent Dances.
Paris, Dec. 24.—The crisis in Morocco is assuming a warlike aspect, leading the government to consider all eventualities, including the possibility and even the probability of the occupation of a chain of six or seven of the most important ports, giving France the control of Moroccan customs and communication with the outer world. This will not be definitely determined until the sultan responds to French demands for redress.

Shot His Wife.

Everett, Wash., Dec. 24.—Scott Hevley, a rancher, shot his wife in the neck today at the home of H. G. Brower, 14 miles from Everett. Recently Hevley's wife left him during a quarrel. Hevley called at Brower's home today with the apparent intention of a reconciliation, but at the conclusion of the noon meal Brower says Hevley drew a revolver and shot his wife and attempted to shoot Brower. He was overpowered. It is not known how serious the woman's wound may prove. Hevley is in jail.

NEW YORK SWAMPED

Christmas Packages for the Millions Are There.

EVERYBODY HAD PLENTY COIN

Merchants Are Pleased by the Influx of Coin to Their Tills, But the Carriers Are Not Ticked a Bit at the Immense Shipments.

New York, Dec. 24.—Express companies and suburban package carriers doing business in this city have been swept in an avalanche of Christmas packages. Mountains of parcels are piled up in the transfer office and, although extra men and wagons are at work the accumulation seems to grow larger instead of smaller.

That many parcels containing gifts will not be delivered before the middle of next week is admitted by the express officials. Delivery systems operated by many of the large retail shops will be at work throughout Sunday and Monday in the hopes of catching up.

Christmas shopping reached its height today on Friday, and according to merchants in the retail district the sales this year have passed all records. From early in the morning until 10 o'clock at night crowds of eager buyers filled the stores. Articles for gifts were soon wrapped up hurriedly and the unprecedented demand left many stores short of goods that are ordinarily left over to be disposed at bargain sales after the holidays.

"Men who were caught in the vortex of a crush of women shoppers in narrow aisles or near the elevators of the big stores wished they had remained at home. Sidewalks in the shopping district were moving masses of humanity. Surface cars and elevated trains were jammed with passengers and the subway shared in the crush. When the homeward rush of workers began at night the crush was frightful.

Merchants of many years' experience said that the Christmas buying this year was begun earlier than usual and that everybody seemed to have money. Purchases were made on a liberal scale and the sales this year were of a more substantial character than before. Large jewelry houses report the best holiday trade in years and the fur trade which last year was near disaster, is now said to be in a prosperous condition.

Christmas celebration will begin at the churches, Sunday schools and clubs this evening. There will be special services in the churches tomorrow with elaborate musical programs and, on Monday, many dinners to the poor will be given.

SHIPS EMERGE

Liners Going Into Docks from the Thames.

LONDON RECOVERING

Many Accidents Have Occurred in the Past Three Days on the River.

NO LIVES REPORTED LOST

Mails Held Up and Package Delivery Paralyzed by the Worst Fog in London's Experience—Shops Lose Millions of Dollars.

London, Dec. 24.—The fog unprecedented in the annals of the meteorological observances of the officials of the British empire, and the lower Thames presents a spectacle that has never before been seen on the river.

Pilots, and masters of small vessels have been no less at a loss than the masters of the great ocean liners, and the last few days has produced a condition of traffic that has never been seen before, even in the memory "of the oldest inhabitant," and the congestion of the enormous traffic by the river into London has been held in a way that has paralyzed the Christmas trade in the matter of foreign deliveries, no less than the loss that has been occasioned London merchants by the fog that has been so dense which even the lighting of the street lamps all day long has not sufficed to correct.

Millions of shoppers that would have otherwise thronged the shops of the city have not even visited the Strand, and the loss to the merchants cannot be calculated except in the failures that will result.

The shipping reports from the Thames are full of minor casualties, and collisions, but up to midnight no serious accidents have occurred during the three days' inaction of the great liners and steamers from every quarter of the globe.

Under charge of the harbor authorities, the big liners have begun lifting anchors and are moving slowly to their docks. All lesser shipping is held in its place.

RUSSIAN DEFENSE.

Accidents at Sea Are Likely Always to Occur.

Paris, Dec. 24.—Russian defense before the international commission which inquires into the North sea incident, is practically completed. The main features are: First, firing by the Russian squadron is justified, as a defense against attack. This entails the proving of the present of Japanese torpedo-boats; second, even if the Russians were not attacked, they believed they were, and, therefore, defensive measures, which were taken, were absolutely in good faith; third, at most it was an accident at sea, where dangers and risks are extreme.

GIRL IN JAIL.

No Bail in the Case of Miss Nan Patterson

New York, Dec. 24.—Nan Patterson's last hope of spending Christmas with her parents in Washington vanished today when District Attorney Jerome announced he would not agree to a reduction of bail. This was taken to mean the show girl will again be tried on the charge of the murder of Caesar Young. Bail was previously fixed at \$20,000.

The news she will not be admitted to bail was broken to Miss Patterson as gently as possible, but she broke down completely after making a brave show of cheerfulness, all day.

Christmas in New York.

New York, Dec. 24.—New York began its Christmas celebration tonight, and the various hospitals and charitable institutions of the city had Christ-

mas trees for the little ones and the poor of the lower city sections, besides many of the basket distributions that were carried on in the various portions of the city by the ladies' aid societies. It is estimated tonight that at least 350,000 Christmas trees have been sold in the city within the past 10 days.

MIRSKY STANDS HIGH.

Emperor Expresses Confidence in the "Peasant Prince."

St. Petersburg, Dec. 24.—The current stories of the complete victories of the reactionaries and the definite shelving of all hope of early reforms on the broad scale, according to an authority very close to the emperor, are absolutely false.

Interior Minister Mirsky stands higher than ever in the emperor's esteem and confidence, and the program of reform that is being worked out covers the national, municipal and peasant administrations.

CHANGE OF VENUE.

Miners Cannot Get Fair Trial in Teller County.

Colorado Springs, Dec. 24.—The Teller county cases against Charles H. Moyer and other officers of the Western Federation of Miners growing out of the strike troubles in Cripple Creek have been transferred to Douglas county for trial, by order of Judge Cunningham before whom a motion for a change of venue was argued in chambers here. The reason for the action of the judge is that he believes a fair trial could not be had in Teller county.

TALE OF THE SEA

Fought Off Hordes of Voracious Man Eating Sharks.

ELEVEN DAYS WITHOUT WATER

Sam Harris and South Sea Islanders Reach Papeete Crazy from Privation and Exposure in a Little Open Boat—Almost Starved.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—Average of 200 miles by oar, almost destitute of provisions and water and pursued by a horde of giant sharks that threatened momentarily day and night to capsize the craft and devour its occupants, was the experience of Captain Sam Harris and four South Sea Islanders, who composed the crew of the little trading schooner Victor, wrecked on Apa Taki island on November 30.

Apa Taki is 200 miles from Papeete, the port of Tahiti. This is a tale of the sea brought here by the liner Mariposa, just arrived, which left Papeete on the day Captain Harris and his men landed there, emaciated and nearly crazed, but still alive.

When the Victor ended her career by striking the reef, the shipwrecked crew had barely time to put off in the boat for their long voyage, made without compass and no sail, with one day's provisions on board and half a dozen coconuts, the milk from the latter was all they had to drink during the 11 days it took to reach Papeete. The passage was enlivened by a constant combat with the sharks. In verification of their story oars were shown splintered and worn revealing the attacks of the ferocious fish which gave them no rest.

The Victor was a trader among the Friendly and Society islands.

Sheriffs Shot.

Sherman, Texas, Dec. 24.—Sheriff Russell of Hugo, I. T., was shot and killed tonight, and Sheriff Williams of Grayson county, Texas, who was with him, severely wounded, by two men who were under arrest and aboard a train being taken back to Sherman to answer to a charge of burglary. The prisoners leaped from the train, which was running at a high rate of speed, and escaped. A large posse is in pursuit.

Sport Escapes.

Butte, Dec. 24.—After being out 40 hours the jury in the case of Jerry Slattery, a well-known sporting man, charged with the murder of Patrick Mahoney, today disagreed.

FIFTEEN FREE

New York Judge Tempers the Storm.

ATTACHES NAME MAN

Justice Doesn't Care Who It is That Regains Liberty on Christmas.

RELEASE FOR UNFORTUNATES

New York a Good Place to Be in Jail If the Judge Has Had a Good Breakfast and Feels in Lenient Mood.

New York, Dec. 24.—Today 15 prisoners were released upon the request of the police reporters and who ever had a friend that wanted his liberty.

After the regular session of court Judge Frank J. Higgins called the jail attaches and the reporters and informed them that in recognition of the Christmas season he had decided to permit each of them to name a prisoner whose release they desired.

The releases were signed by the judge and the men were turned loose without process of law, on request of the men who had friends in jail.

It seems any judge can liberate the prisoner of a county or municipal jail at will, and this one was particularly good natured.

HIS OWN PETARD.

Policeman Killed by a Woman With Weapon He Carried.

Vienna, Dec. 24.—A Hungarian girl named Rosa Lazar of Temesvar killed a policeman this week with his own sword.

He was trying to arrest her for being disorderly in a coffee house, when she snatched his sword from its scabbard and dealt him such a blow on the head that it split his skull.

It took the united efforts of several other constables with drawn swords to disarm her.

FOR THE SLOCUM WRECK.

Demurrers Are Overruled by the Presiding Judge.

New York, Dec. 24.—The demurrers of Charles F. Barnaby, President J. P. Atkinson, secretary, and F. G. Dexter director of Knickerbocker Steamboat Company and others to the indictment charging them with a share of responsibility in the burning of the excursion steamer General Slocum, was overruled today by Judge Thomas of the United States court.

The company officials demurred to the indictment on the ground they were not owners of crafts. He holds the primary duty in the selection test, and the maintenance of life-saving apparatus is upon the owners. At the same time it was the duty of the captain to carefully inspect the equipment and in the event of imperfect duty to refuse to navigate the vessel.

Fatal Gasoline.

Guthrie, O. T., Dec. 24.—Wilhelm Schultz was fatally burned and his wife and three children are dead as the result of a gasoline explosion at their home near Guymon, Oklahoma.

MIKADO PLEADED.

Pats Togo on the Back for His Great Achievements.

Tokio, Dec. 24, 10:15 a. m.—An imperial rescript dispatched to Vice Admiral Togo says:

"We hear with great satisfaction that our torpedo flotillas engaged in the work required of them at Port Arthur have gallantly and successfully accomplished the duties required of them and in so doing had to brave the dangers

of storms and shells by day and night. "Despite all the difficulties confronting them they have succeeded in performing their duties without the least confusion, rendering one another mutual assistance.

"We especially note their brave and loyal performance of the duties required of them and express our approbation of their gallant behavior."

For Government Aid.

Spokane, Dec. 24.—T. A. Noble, resident engineer of the geological survey, who prepared the plans of the Palouse irrigation project, has been called to Washington to be present at negotiations between the government and the O. R. & N. railroad, and submitted a proposition to the government to surrender possession of the Washtucna Coulee, approximately \$200,000, for a reservoir.

Spuds for Ireland.

Greeley, Col., Dec. 24.—A mass meeting was held here today to provide 100 carloads of potatoes for the Irish famine sufferers.

TRAMP FIGHTS.

Conductor and Brakeman Shot While Ejecting the Man.

Gallipolis, O., Dec. 24.—An exciting battle took place on a northbound Hocking Valley passenger train, near here, this afternoon. The conductor was shot through the left arm and shoulder, and the brakeman was shot through the left breast and ankle, by Edgar Grover. The crew had attempted to put Grover from the train. The sheriff and a large posse have gone in search of the fugitive.

SOME MORE SNOW

28,000 Men Employed Clearing Sidewalks.

DEEPEST SNOW FOR YEARS

About Twenty-Two Inches of Snow on the Level in New York City and Traffic is Very Badly Blocked.

New York, Dec. 24.—A force of 25,000 men went to work on the snow in this great big town yesterday. No such force ever tackled the snow here before. At 6 o'clock in the morning Snow Contractor Bradley put 13,000 men to work, of whom 4000 drove carts. At night this lot went off duty and the contractor put on 10,000 fresh men of whom 2500 drove carts. The laborers of this force were done in Manhattan and the Bronx and in Brooklyn and an amazing area of streets was cleared.

The fall of snow was 7 3/4 inches, making about 22 inches so far this fall or nearly two-thirds the average New York snowfall for an entire winter.

Superintendent Bouton of the city's snow removal bureau said that the removal of snow under Dr. Woodbury's new system was far more satisfactory than the old style. The removal is paid for by the contractor by the cubic yard at rates varying from 16 cents to 22 cents the yard, governed by distance from dumping stations.

It cost the city about \$25,000 for each inch of fall in Manhattan alone, and Mr. Bouton said that last year the city paid out about \$775,000 for the removal of snow in Manhattan and the Bronx.

The city pays the contractor on a basis of actual snowfall and actual area cleaned. The figures are obtained by measurements of the surfaces cleaned from house line to house line in the several districts mapped out for cleaning, and by the official report of the number of inches of snowfall.

There are 11 districts in Manhattan and two in the Bronx. In Manhattan about 300 miles of streets are cleaned, and in the Bronx about 50, so of course all can't be cleaned at once.

Battleship Damaged.

Newport News, Dec. 24.—The battleship Iowa, while being docked at the ship yards here today, came in violent contact with the structural work of the battleship Ashute. The guard rails were carried away and the ship otherwise slightly damaged.